WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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A SONG OF HOPE.

LET us sing a merry song,
For the sun is on the seas,
There's freshness in the breeze;
The litt: birds are carolling the whole day long,
And the air is filled with t eir tuneful song.
So let us sing a merry song.

Let us sing a merry song,
For the sunlight glows and gleams;
Love shines in golden dreams,
And love is still so sweet to the sad old earth,
And there's still a little room for happiness and mirth.
So let us sing a merry song.

Let us sing a merry song,
For a glorious hope is growing,
A swelling tide is flowing,
A worthy cause is prospering over land and sea,
And a day is slowly dawning that shall set the toilers free.
So let us sing a merry song.

Let us sing a merry song,
For the gospel we are spreading,
The path of light we're treading,
The glowing hope that pulses in the heart of everyone,
And the years when sordid want shall be unknown beneath the sun,
For the hour that's surely coming when the peoples claim their own,
When Liberty and Justice shall rule in every zone.
So let us sing a merry song.

—E. T. CLARKE, in the *Social-Democrat*.

The Passing Show.

CONDUCTED BY OTUS.

AMERICAN Socialists deserve to be congratulated on their press. The New York (daily) *Call*, with its Sunday edition and magazine section is a splendid literary as well as fighting production; the *Daily Socialist* at Chicago is a tower of strength to the Party on both the industrial and political field; the New York *Daily People* (also with a weekly edition) is always sound on Socialist economics; the *Appeal to Reason* (Girard, Kan.), with its half-a-million of subscribers, is one of the finest propagandist sheets in the world; the *International Socialist Review* (Chicago), capably edited and soundly written, furnishes the vehicle for academic discussion as well as the world's Socialist news and effective propaganda; while many other magazines and local papers are springing into existence and hastening the all-conquering march of the Socialists.

Because they are descendants of a German prince, two brothers, George and Henry Glase, of Milwaukee, U.S.A., positively refuse to work. They were served with vagrancy warrants.

A hatred of work has always been regarded as first evidence of blue-bloodedness. All of our Australian Potts-Pointers and aristocrats and snobocrats and leg-ironers and descendants of princes and burglars and other early day criminals hate work nearly as much as Gregory Wade and Billy Hughes hate Peter Bowling.

For stealing two skulls a Sydney man was sent to jail for three months the other day. This should be lesson to him to steal two whole men, alive, next time, and make them work, and get away with the surplus values they create, like the rest of the capitalists. The magistrate who sent him to jail for stealing the silly old skulls would then most likely invite him to dinner.

Allan McDougall (after whom Sydney Eight-hours Committee christened a calf or juvenile donkey or something) has been telling the Senate in effect that if the people of N.S.W. had known Arthur Rae was going to vote against the Yass-Canberra Federal Site, they would have elected Neild or Gray or Pulsford instead of him. "Yass-Canberra had his vote because N.S.W. sent him there to vote in her interests," McDougall declared. On the hustings McDougall fooled the workers by making them believe he was going to the Senate to vote for *their* interests.

The only reason Yass-Canberra is the Capital site to-day is because that arrangement will put hundreds of thousands of pounds into the pockets of the Duke of Argyle's relatives, the Campbell family; and if ever the suit paid for votes to secure the Yass-Canberra majority, "in the interests of N.S.W." comes to be known, the figures will stagger a startled populace.

Josiah Thomas speaks with two tongues. He tells the Ormond College Theological Students Christian Union that the Labor Party is out to abolish poverty; and he also tells the sweated G.P.O. employees that they will have to go on enduring poverty under Labor Party rule.

In a sub-leader on co-operation, the *D.T.* makes this profound observation:

"Socialism, of course, looks askance at co-operation, which is altogether too successful to suit the nationalizer. Socialism implies State ownership, and the reduction of all the people to one level of opportunity."

Wherever does this wonderful paper get its wisdom from?

Socialism is not opposed to co-operation. Socialism is co-operation. What Socialists are opposed to are the bogus, profit-making, labor-fleecing ventures that are sometimes dignified and cloaked with the name of co-operation. Socialism does not imply State ownership—it implies the disappearance of the State, and collective ownership and administration by the people! But the objection to equality of opportunity is easily understood. THAT would mean that the people who own the *Telegraph* would have to take on honest work. WORK? Perish the thought?

The bourgeois politicians have completely captured the Waterside Workers Federation. Here is the list of officers just elected: President, W. M. Hughes, M.H.R.; vice-president, Bamford, M.H.R.; treasurer, Senator de Largie; secretary, J. Morris; auditors, Senator Turley and Poynton, M.H.R.; trustees, Fisher, M.H.R., Hughes, M.H.R., and J. Morris.

The same gentlemen held office last year. Can anyone wonder that the organization was worked to scab it on the striking coal miners?

At Murwillumbah Robert Smith was fined £6 10s in all for absenting himself from work without the consent of his employers, the Colonial Sugar Co.

The slaves must be made to recognise that they can't cease work just when it suits their own interests. And the class court is just the place in which to teach them.

When a worker accepts employment with any Sydney milk employer, he is compelled to enter into an agreement which may debar him from getting a living.

The other day a writ of attachment was applied for by the Sydney Milk and Ice Co. to issue against William Moir for contempt of a decree made on August 5, by which he was restrained until February 4, 1912, from soliciting or serving with milk people who had been customers of the plaintiff co. (in whose employ the defendant had been) within a radius of five miles from Ivy-street, Redfern. The writ was granted, to be enforced in 14 days' time if Moir still failed to obey the decree.

The position now is that William Moir will be sent to jail if he persists in trying to make a living for his wife and kiddies in opposition to the Sydney Milk and Ice Co.

Heard during the Federal Capital Site discussion:

Labor-Senator Ready: "There was no hurry for a capital. FOR POLITICAL REASONS A DESIRE WAS MANIFESTED TO GET THIS MONEY ON THE ESTIMATES."

Labor-member Bamford: "I would like to ask the Minister [Labor-member O'Malley] if, when he brings another red herring into this matter, he will have it better cooked."

According to the *S. M. Herald's* report, Labor-candidate Craig (Allowrie electorate) told an audience the other day: "Until recently he had supported the Liberal cause; but after last Federal election he got the Labor platform; and, having closely perused it *for the first time*, he readily agreed that it was the better policy."

Intolerance is the shadow which dogs the footsteps of Faith.

Self-reverence, self-knowledge, self-control, are pillars of a well-ordered life.—*Western Clarion*.

Temples with the ancients served as the dwellings of the gods of commodities. They were "sacred banks."—MARX.

"Business is mostly a bargain of the spider and the fly."

The Crown Prince of Siam is adding gray hairs to the head of his royal father, King Chulalonkorn, and has set the country by the ears generally, by defying the traditions of a long ancestral line in refusing to marry his sister. According to the Rev. William C. Dodd, a returned Presbyterian missionary, all Siam is agog over the prince's announcement. From time immorial, the missionary says, it has been the custom for the crown prince to wed his sister, or, if he has none, then a half-sister, the daughter of one his father's numerous wives. The present crown prince has asserted his independence by publicly declaring that he intends to have but one wife, and that one of his own choosing.—New York *Call*.

If he's not careful, the Crown Prince of Siam will be charged with wanting to smash the marriage tie and destroy the sanctity of the home, and abolish the family. A prince or a king with only *one* wife would be a peculiarity indeed in these days of the "divine right" of kings.

If Andrew Fisher could only persuade George H. Reid to eschew free luncheons and champagne that maketh the tongue wag, he might save George H. Reid from telling small assemblies of gluttonous Fat Men six times a week that Britain's only hope is to keep on building Dreadnoughts!

In one week Oodnadatta had a plague of grasshoppers and a visit from John Verran. This paper sympathises with Oodnadatta.

A shrieking scandal received publicity the other day. A working man named Wilson was sent to jail by a Sydney magistrate for three months on a charge of vagrancy, preferred by the police. He appealed against the conviction, and convinced the judge that he was earning his living as a news vendor when arrested. But it took three months to get to the higher court, and the man was compelled to remain in jail, and had served the sentence for an offence which the Court now holds he never committed. "I am afraid I can't help you in that matter," said the judge, when Wilson asked what he was to do about it.

A writer in London *Justice* says: "On the day I am writing this an old woman of 76 years, receiving 5s from our Board, told me she has to starve half the week."

O Christian England!

If you want to mar a nature you have merely to reform it.

Beautiful sins, like beautiful things, are the privileges of the rich.

The only things that one can use in fiction are the things that one has ceased to use in fact.—OSCAR WILDE.

Senator McGregor hit the nail right on the head when he declared: "A great deal of of nonsense had been said about the land tax bill, but there was nothing dangerous, nothing alarming in the Government scheme." It was Senator McGregor who, a few years back, declared that the Labor Party was up for sale to the highest bidder. That was when the L.P. was alternately offering its support to Deakin and Reid.

A case of working-class heroism is recorded from Victoria. Charles James Nelson died at Windsor, the other day as the result of a mining accident. A mate was overcome in a shaft at Studley Park sewerage works, in which charges had been laid, and Nelson bravely went to his assistance. The explosion occurred while Nelson was endeavoring to get the helpless man (Holmes) out of harm's way. He succeeded in getting Holmes upon the bucket, and staggered up the ladder after the bucket had been drawn up. Nelson became seriously ill during the night, and died.

Mack Morrison, 6 years of age, was run over by a tram and killed in Elizabeth-street, Sydney, the other day. Two little playmates who were with him were injured. Capitalism can't afford a little bit of *its* earth to provide playgrounds; and so the children of the workers must play in the city's crowded streets, where Death is constantly hovering over their games.

As soon as the world's heroes are born they take a bee-line to the rack of the inquisition or the axe of the tyrant.—EMERSON.

We have been trying to hammer into the exceedingly thick head of Sydney *Worker* for quite a long while the fact that so far as their essential principles are concerned the Liberal and Labor Parties rest on exactly identical economic foundations. We now congratulate the *Worker* on having recognised the truth of our position. In an excellent cartoon in last issue the *Worker* depicts Wade pointing to the Labor Party's Platform and declaring: "There's our policy, ladies and gentlemen, and I challenge the ninety Labor candidates and all their friends to find a better."

The *Daily Telegraph* draws some consolation from the fact that, even if the Labor Party does win, most of its candidates are ex-Liberals.

The fact is that the incoming Labor government will very largely be the old Leg-Irons Party under a new name.

The Egyptians are beginning to agitate for "home rule." The only reason they haven't home rule now is that the International Capitalists prefer to have their plunder operations safe-guarded by the British Government.

John Nobbs, Leg-Irons candidate for Granville, resents the intrusion of F. E. McLean (ex-Leg-Irons member for Lang in the Federal Parliament) into the Granville contest. Mr. Nobbs told a meeting the other night that *he* "didn't come before them as a political derelict or wreck, or one who had been cast out of another electorate," etc. John's trouble is that he is doomed to be a political wreck when the contest is over; but the change won't affect the workers at all. McLean will just as capably look after the class interests of Fat.

The principal items of news from the Australian Senate last week were two. 1. Labor-Senator McDougall's denunciation of Labor-Senator Rae, because the latter wouldn't vote to conserve the financial interests of the Duke of Argyle's relatives. 2. Labor-Senator Long's statesmanlike offer to pull Liberal-Senator Clemons' nose.

Sydney *Worker* permits some irresponsible person to break into four lines of verse. We strongly suspect the Federal Attorney-General. Slightly revised, we present the brilliant effort:

To asphyxiate your doubting neighbor,
Dose him with "The Case for Labor."
He'll drop dead as dead can be—
And it's goores for one and three.

Please, don't forget the *one and three*.

Barrier Daily Truth (Labor Party organ) prints a talking cartoon in which John Verran, Labor Premier of S.A., is depicted leaving in a hurry for Oodnadatta, while the strikers are holding a protest meeting. Under the cartoon the following news item is printed: "Premier John Verran, whose insistence on the retention of slave-driving Foreman Thompson at Gepp's Cross precipitated the Adelaide strike, left the city on a pleasure trip. All true unionists are disgusted at his action."

In Mexico, where Diaz the Murderer rules, the cables announce that the centenary celebrations of Mexican freedom have commenced, and all foreign nations are represented. Freedom in Mexico is something like first cousin to British freedom in India.

On a charge of "embezzling" £1, the property of the proprietor of a milk business, W. McPherson was fined £10 6s, or three months' hard labor.

The magnesia charge against S. Hordern was *not* described as "embezzling" from the public, and Hordern was fined fifty shillings, and not £10.

McPherson is a wage-worker, Hordern a capitalist. And there are no class distinctions in our class courts, because justice is blind.

Labor-member Beazley (Vic.), who has just returned from Japan, comes back with the lying old yelp of the jingo capitalist about the danger to Australia from a Jap. invasion. Men like Beazley, elected by the fool workers to Parliament, have no shriek to make about the danger to the Australian working-class from Capitalism and the Australian capitalists, who are ever with us. Why? Because the Beazley brand of politician is always either the willing or the stupid tool of local Capitalism.

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Committee and General Meetings.

The following meetings will be held at 274 Pitt-street, Sydney, during the forthcoming week:—

Tuesday, 8—S.F.A. Administrative Council.
Monday, 7.30 p.m.—Club Executive.
Monday, 8.30 p.m.—Joint Executives.
Monday, 9.15 p.m.—Party Executive.

To our Contributors.

Contributors to The International Socialist are reminded that our space is exceedingly limited. Therefore short articles and crisp and snappy paragraphs will have the best chance of securing publication.

Writers are asked to note that preference will be given to articles dealing with current industrial and political events from a Revolutionary Socialist viewpoint. Articles must not exceed 1000 words.

Open Column contributions exceeding 500 words cannot be printed.

Write legibly, on one side of the paper only, and leave good space between the lines.

When posting, leave ends open, and mark "Press Copy Only." A penny stamp will then be sufficient from any part of Australia.

Every contribution must bear the writer's name—not necessarily for publication.

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Motor-car Kelly (not Andy of the Anti-Top Hat) is dreadfully afraid that Andrew Fisher's funny little Land Tax with the Five Thousand Exemption will frighten the British investor into carting £300,000,000 worth of landed property out of Australia. The immaculate William doesn't say whether they'll take it away in wheelbarrows, motor cars, or flying machines.

They're blocking up the highways; yes, they think to keep us back
By piling barriers of law and falsehood on the track;
We'll break the barriers down and burn them into cinders black,
As we go marching to Liberty!

The Political Criminal.

BY J. BLUMENTHAL.

"The prison for political dissentients corresponds to the stake for religious dissentients." Such is the historically true remark of Havelock Ellis, a prominent criminologist, in his book, "The Criminal"—a remark that the history of the past and present semi-civilised world emphatically endorses.

Whenever the predominant class has had its misgovernment caustically pointed out by that step-parent of progress, the agitator, or has had its institutions assailed by a body of downtrodden workers, the leaders and individuals concerned in rendering the seat of the reigning political government more insecure are summarily dealt with by being incarcerated in the jails of Capitalism. The fear of honest criticism and the exposure of fallacious doctrines has so moved the reigning class, by fear of the consequences of the awakened masses taking control of the governmental machine, that laws are hastily passed and enforced for the suppression of those who will persist in outraging the perverted moral sense of "right thinking people."

The fear of an inherently intelligent people whom they have deliberately kept ignorant, angrily demanding from them what they never earned, has induced the capitalist governments to pass laws for the suppression and eradication of their political and economic enemies. But when men and women are animated in every nerve and fibre by the possession of a great principle they have the firmness of their purpose so hardened that they triumph over all persecution the more purified and firm do they come out of the ordeal. This brings to mind the Exceptional Law passed by Bismarck to suppress the Socialist movement in Germany. How signally that masterpiece of capitalistic class legislation failed is now seen in the fact of Germany possessing the largest number of Socialists and Socialist newspapers in the world.

Havelock Ellis, speaking on the on the same subject in "The Criminal," says:—"There is the political criminal. By this term is meant the victim of an attempt by a more or less despotic government to preserve its own stability. The word criminal in this expression is usually a euphemism to express the suppression of a small minority by the majority. The aims of the 'political criminal' may be anti-social, and in that case he is simply an ordinary criminal, but he is not necessarily guilty of any anti-social offence: he simply tries to overturn a certain political order which may itself be anti-social. Consequently the 'political criminal' of our time or place may be the hero, martyr, saint, of another land or age. The political criminal is, as Lombroso calls him, "the true precursor of the progressive movement of humanity": or, as Benedikt calls him, the *homo nobilis*, of whom the highest type is Christ. From any scientific point of view the use of the word crime, to express a difference of national feeling or of political opinion, is an abuse of language. Such a conception may be necessary to ensure the supremacy of a government, just as the conception of heresy is necessary to ensure the supremacy of a Church."

This scientist uses an extremely moderate expression in affirming as "an abuse of language" the position which can be applied to the present action of Leg-Irons Garland in terming Peter Bowling by the obnoxious designation of criminal. The first sentence expresses in a nutshell the master-class hatred which inspires the Wade Government. The remark of Lombroso that "the political criminal is the true precursor of the progressive movement of humanity" is an historic fact that in a civilised country would be recognised by the agitator having the right to give free vent to his opinions and an equal opportunity to expound his principles, so that the inherent reasoning faculties of the people for what is altruistically good would reject or endorse for the benefit of all, and not for a class.

The sociologist, the historian, and now even the criminologist, have cast their practical and weighty opinions on the side of the social agitator and against the real criminal class of the Twentieth Century, represented in this State by the Liberal Government.

What Shall We Do?

BY DANDELION.

By the treachery of the Labor Party in the Federal Parliament in making it compulsory to give our sons up to the capitalists to be trained to murder, we, the Socialists of Australia, are faced with a very serious problem which must be solved in the near future. As International Socialists we are naturally opposed to murder, either retail or wholesale; and, being opposed to war, we cannot allow ourselves or our children to be forced to take up the infernal implements of war even to secure titles for the traitors who now mislead the workers of Australia. We must, to be consistent, continue to cultivate *international* sentiment as opposed to the stupid and mischievous *national* sentiment fostered by the corrupt "Labor" gang. We must still regard the workers of the world as our comrades and friends, no matter which portion of the planet's surface they work and suffer in. We must still maintain that *the real enemies of the workers are always found at home*—not abroad. And, in cultivating international friendship and fraternity, and declaring this fact, we shall be false to our principles and declarations of friendship towards the workers in other lands if we meekly bow to the military yoke which is being fastened upon our necks in addition to that of our industrial servitude. But what is to be done? We are well aware that the Labor Party, whilst falsely claiming at times to be a Socialist party, is bitterly opposed to Socialism and Socialists. Therefore we may expect no more mercy from the Federal Labor Government if we violate its Military Coercion Act than we get when we violate its Arbitration Act, which provides jail for the strikers. We know that if we refuse to allow our innocent children, whom we have worked and struggled for, to be coerced into military training, to be shot for the benefit of the six per cent. who own Australia, we shall be fined and imprisoned with pleasure and promptness by Messrs. Fisher and Co.

There are three ways in which we and our sons may avoid military training and active service for our patriotic masters on the field of slaughter. First, we may, by joining the alleged Labor Leagues, and always making ourselves agreeable to the majority, become members of Parliament, and thereby become exempt from stopping bullets in time of war. This action, by the way, of the Fisher politicians exempting members of Parliament from the curse of collective murder is the crowning act of cowardice and treason to the working-class. In the words of the Old Book, "They bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers!" It is obvious, however, that this method of keeping hands and consciences clean from blood is not available to honest men. Pandering to the crowd is not one of the faults of Socialists, bad as we are. Moreover, this method is is only open to a very small minority. The second way of escape from the crime of imbruing our hands in our brother's blood is to join the railway service. Fisher's gang, having made itself free from danger on the plea that it "could talk better than fight," has made itself doubly secure by exempting the railway men from military service in war-time, and thus leaving a way of escape from bombs and bullets by means of special trains *from* the firing line to Gore Hill, or some other haven of safety. But the same fatal objection blocks us here also. We cannot *all* become railway workers and assist in taking the whisky-soaked carcases of our brave parliamentary patriots to a secure hiding place.

One other method of maintaining our reputations for consistency to the principle of altruism remains. We could make a general exodus of Socialists from this patriotic, imperialistic, title-hunting "labor" member-cursed constituent. We could pack up our few portable articles of value and sail away to some country where men and boys are not yet forced to work and murder for the benefit of a few land-holding bandits, and for the glorification of a gang of renegade politicians doing business under the name of "Labor."

Which of these methods shall we adopt?

Shall we bow down humbly in the dirt, and recant, and renounce all our Socialistic opinions and beliefs? Shall we drop our principles as world-embracing Socialists, and meekly pick up a rifle to oblige Jingo Andy and Strikebreaking Billy? Shall we cease to extend the fraternal hand to workers of all lands, and begin to aid in the diabolical extension of empire?

Not even Socialists can serve two masters. The choice now lies between enlightened conscience and brutalising capitalism. Shall we migrate and leave in the claws of our enemies the national wealth which our skill and labor have produced; or shall we accept the loss of everything rather than part with our principles as Socialists?

These are questions which I would like my fellow Socialists to answer. Let us discuss the matter, firstly in The International Socialist, and secondly at a conference of representatives of all Socialist organisations in Australasia. Let us decide upon some plan of action, each helping all, and all assisting each other, so that the whole Socialist force of Australasia may be brought to bear on this latest treacherous imposition of Fisher and Co. There is no time to lose if we wish to save ourselves and our growing sons from the hideous incubus of conscription. We must try to make the apathetic people understand the enormity of the crime being perpetrated upon them by the Labor wolves in sheep's clothing. We can expect no help from the capitalist press or pulpit. They both approve of Sir Andrew Fisher's immigration policy whereby thousands of poor people are to be fooled out here in order to lower the current rate of wages and to help to defend THEIR country, which the lying editors and prevaricating parsons KNOW the people do not possess. The most effective way to awaken the workers to the true character of their misrepresentatives and to the unspeakable treachery and cowardice of which they are guilty, is to support and push the Socialist papers that are painfully struggling for existence.

Meanwhile, let us discuss and adopt a practicable and consistent method of escaping from the horrors of fratricidal warfare, and of rendering it impossible in the near future.

In an up-country district a valuable horse died the other day. At first they thought the cause of death was snakebite. Later they found it was heart-failure, due to shock. The descendant of the Orohippus had somehow found out that he was booked to pull a vehicle with Premier Wade in it—and under these circumstances any decent-minded quadruped would drop dead.

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The G.P.O.

Sweating Horror & Reign of Terror

BY H. E. HOLLAND.

HUNDREDS of working men who read last week's article on the sweating system at the G.P.O. in THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST are still wondering if these things can be. Hundreds of others are declaring against the writer, and setting the whole article down as simply an attempt to discredit the Labor Government. Nevertheless, every charge printed in our last issue was wholly true; every statement capable of the fullest substantiation. Scores of postmen have expressed to the writer their hearty appreciation and approval of last week's article, which caused quite a considerable stir in official postal circles, especially among the higher officials. But of this more anon.

* * *

All over Australia there is seething discontent in Mr. Thomas's department. From far-off Perth comes news this week of the rumblings of a revolt among the postal employees in the western State. The employees—or some of them—have rushed into print with a fierce attack on the Public Service Commissioner. They complain bitterly of the treatment that is being meted out to them in the matter of overtime pay—or rather overtime without pay. When the Pericles was wrecked, they say, the employees were compelled to work overtime, and even the tea-money to which they were entitled while so working has been withheld up to the present. With regard to the discontent in connection with sick-leave conditions, they declare that the Postal Administration is responsible for most of the cases of sickness by reason of the manner in which they herd the employees together under conditions which are a menace to health.

* * *

From Queensland also there comes an intimation that the working-class employees there are enduring the same unspeakable sweating conditions as prevail in Sydney. The "higher" officials there, as here, do not complain—these are nearly always employed to do the driving and speeding-up!

When Labor-member Thomas recently visited Brisbane, the employees, through their association, made representations to him concerning their grievances and the wrongs they were enduring. Instead of boldly facing the position, as a working-class representative should have done—and would have done—Mr. Thomas coolly passed the complaints along to the permanent heads of the Department—the class foes of the organised workers. This action of Labor-member Thomas's the employees don't hesitate to bitterly denounce as a waste of time and a fallacy. The only result it is likely to have may be the victimising of those most prominent in exposing the conditions of the postal workers. "This," writes one of the employees concerned, "is a bitter disappointment to the postal employees who voted Labor to a man, and whose wives also solidly voted Labor, on April 13.

As evidencing the positive Reign of Terror that that prevails under Labor-member Thomas's rule, a Queenslander, writing to this paper, says: "Please refrain from mentioning my name in connection with this matter. They are desirous of settling all who make exposures concerning the awful and degrading conditions under which we have to work; and a man must be careful when he has a wife and children depending on him, and when, after more than 25 years' 'service,' he is receiving less than £150 per annum."

* * *

The Postal Assistants, especially those working in Sydney, are quite as dissatisfied and restless as any other section. They point out that the majority of them have to eke out a care-worn existence on £110 a year—a fraction over £2 a week. Very properly they point to the increased wage-rates secured by other workers, and they recognise that they along with all other workers have to find these increases for their fellows in the increased prices they pay for their commodities; and they point out that, under present conditions, every time any other working-class section secures an *increase*, to a greater or a lesser degree it means a *decrease* to the postal assistants. Fancy keeping a wife and family decently on £110 a year! And before the postal assistant is entitled to receive this staggering sum of £2 a week, he must be 21 years of age and have done three years in the postal service. He must then work on £110 a year for another three years; £114 for one year; £120 for one year; £126 for three years; £132 for one year; £138 for five years; £144 for five years, £150 *for life*. And there you are! If the postal assistant is diligent and hard-working and servile and obedient, and touches his hat every time Mr. Josiah Thomas or some other high panjandrum happens along—and if the said postal assistant is also successful in dodging death for 19 or 20 years, he may find himself entitled to draw £150 a year (£2 17s 8d a week) *for life*. That means as one employee has scathingly put it, that the postal assistant will be at least 40 years of age before he is in a position to marry and have a home and children of his own! Moreover, since the bulk of the employees have been and are kept five years and over on £110, and numbers have been even seven years at the same salary, the chances are that he will be 45 or 47 years of age before Mr. Thomas will give him a wage that will justify him in getting married. Talk about destroying the marriage tie!

* * *

Astounded as were many Laborites to learn of the brutal sweating conditions which the "Labor" Government is forcing on the postal workers, with its bonuses to the over-paid slave-drivers and speeders-up, they will surely be more inexpressibly shocked to know that a very Reign of Terror, instituted long ago, is perpetuated under the auspices of the Labor Postmaster-General. So stringent are the regulations that the postal employees dare not openly carry their grievances to the press. They are in almost the same position in this respect as the prisoners in Darlinghurst jail—only that in their case punishment for violation of the regulations is much more severe. They (the postal workers) stand to lose home, food and clothing for themselves and their wives and children if they are discovered making any move to better their conditions that the higher officials disapprove of. Under government by the working class the freest possible expression would be given to the exposure of wrongs and injustices. But the Labor Government, true to the middle-class interests it represents, follows faithfully in the footsteps of its Fusion predecessors.

When the Sydney deputation waited on Labor-member Thomas, and asked for an eight-hours' working day among other things, the Labor P.M.G. told them they must remember they were Federal officials, and the eight-hours per day did *not* apply to them. This notwithstanding that the eight-hours' day is one of the baits that adorn the political hooks with which Labor-member Thomas and his party angle for votes. It was one of the bates, moreover, with which many of the postal and other workers were hooked and landed in the recent contest. Mr. Thomas also firmly declined to permit his underpaid, overworked employees to have a half-holiday once a week the same as most workers in private employment get.

The employees—that is, those of the lower grades—point to the positive tyranny of this refusal, and lay stress on the fact that they are only allowed 20 minutes for a meal, while the "bosses" are given three quarters of an hour—and these latter "earn" their money by walking about manicuring their nails and occasionally showing their "high-spirited" lady friends over the premises.

"Why," said a postal worker, "if these well-paid johnnies and dudelings were compelled to take their coats off and buck in (especially when it is known that there are insufficient men to cope with the work), a lot of postal matter that is now left behind would get away to time, a lot of work that is now slummed might be better attended to, and THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST might not so often arrive late at Broken Hill, Adelaide, and other places."

"Fancy three superintendents in one branch," said another employee. "The senior superintendent is over 60 years of age, and poses as a martinet. They say that when he speaks to the men he expects them to stand to attention! Like jail, isn't it? This superintendent, by the way, is the father-in-law of Sir Joseph Carruthers (solicitor to Lands Scandals Willis). The second superintendent is a Broken Hill ex-P.M. He was a Sunday School superintendent in that district when Labor-member Thomas a local preacher. Wheels within wheels, you see! And so when the workers make complaints and representations to the Labor Postmaster-General, and this Sunday School superintendent throws cold water on most of them, his word still appears to be "gospel" with Josiah, and our non-success seems to be assured. Guess we'll have to take the matter into our own hands, and deal with Thomas like the United Laborers dealt with Verran."

It is declared that the G.P.O. "bosses" have worked things into a rotten groove altogether. They live and thrive on the strength of their class interests and Masonic intriguings.

* * *

How shall the postal workers gain redress in the immediate future?

By closing up the ranks, and by remembering—and making practical use of the knowledge—that it will suit the Labor Government to concede them anything they ask for rather than face a strike. In its military proposals the Labor Government is impressing upon the workers that the best way to avoid war is to be ready and willing to fight. Let the postal workers take the Labor Party at its word.

The best way to get what the postal workers want—and to get it quickly—is to be READY AND WILLING TO STRIKE as soon as Mr. Thomas has once more refused their altogether too moderate demands.

Frank Landie writes to H. L. Denford, under date Sep. 11: "Pleased to say that we won our trouble with the Government, and fixed same ourselves without the aid of anyone. We secured an arrangement for an independent inquiry board to be established; that ALL the men return to work with the same status as when leaving; and also an undertaking that whilst the present Ministry holds office, THOMPSON WILL NOT BE PUT OVER ANY U.L.U. MEMBER AGAIN. This, of course, was the bone of contention, and as this was agreed to we returned to work. Thanks for letter of appreciation, and also for your offer of support from there. We had the Broken Hill lads behind us had we wanted any assistance, and so should have put up a fight for a month or two. We have the contractors' men on the new tram lines asking for 9s a day. I am sure we shall succeed. Best wishes to all comrades."

THE FAIR—THIS FRIDAY!

Watch that Red Mark paragraph.

International Socialist Party.

Members are notified that the NEXT GENERAL MEETING will be held at 274 Pitt-street, Sydney, on TUESDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 27, 1910, at 8 sharp. Business Important. Members are urged to be present.

J. R. WILSON, Secretary.

Capitalism's Trail of Blood.

Or, The Dignity of Labor.

For if blood be the price of all your wealth,
Good God! we have paid it in full.

THE body of an old man, 74 years of age, was found about a mile and a half out of Clifton. He had been camping near the sea-beach for the past six months.

William Groves, in the North Broken Hill mine, fell and injured his shoulders while trying to escape a fall of earth.

E. Gidgen was seriously injured in a blasting accident in Block 10 mine, Broken Hill.

Martin McCann, railway guard, was knocked down by a train at Fassifern and killed. He was 67 years of age, and had been 40 years in the service.

James Craven, seamen, working on the steamer Kadina, fell down the coal bunker, and was killed.

Charles Stowe, while engaged loading timber on the N.C. Co.'s punt at Yabsley's sawmill, Coraki, fell into the river and was drowned.

William Murray, while riding after cattle, was thrown in a creek at Uki, Murwillumbah, and was drowned.

Nicholas Brennan, 56, shot himself in Cook Park, Sydney.

Frank Ford, driver, was thrown from a cart in Redfern, and seriously injured.

Robert Flood, carter, of Rozelle, sustained a compound fracture of the leg through being kicked by a horse.

Michael Keogh, miner, fell 50 feet in the North mine, Broken Hill. He struck a bar at the bottom, and sustained broken ribs and injuries to his back and scalp.

Socialist Fables.

The Bundle of Sticks.

The old man called his son to him and explained the mysteries of business.

"My son," said he, "you have finished college and you must make a show at least of getting busy. Let me explain to you a few fundamentals. Here I have a bundle of sticks. See if you can break them."

The young man had been absent from school with appendicitis at the time his class had read the old story of the bundle of sticks, so he was not next. He tried and tried to break the sticks, but could not.

"See how easy it is," said the old man, taking the sticks, cutting the cord and breaking them one by one.

"Gee, that's a bum joke," said the young man, as he puffed his cigarette and tried to look interested.

"It's no joke," said the old man. "It's a parable. The bundle of sticks taken together represent organisation, which is very desirable in the case of capital. If, however, we look upon the sticks as representing labor, it is criminal and immoral for them to be tied together. They would then represent a union. Always keep your labor sticks separate."

"I should think what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," said the son, whose point of view was still blunt.

"It depends on how big a goose you are," replied the old man.—ELLIS O. JONES.

Answers to Correspondents.

THE SLAVE; AJAX; F.S.S., Adelaide; W.H., Sydney.—Received. Will use as space permits.

G.M., Adelaide.—S.F.A. Treasurer forwarding receipt. Particulars desired will be posted this week.

TOM MANN, London.—Thanks. Writing by next mail.

E.V.C., Broken Hill. Subs received. Doubtful if can supply from date mentioned. Exchanges arriving alright. Thanks.

[A number of replies unavoidably held over.]

The Press Fund.

	£	s	d
Already acknowledged	44	4	0
R. Wenzel	0	1	0
G. Wenzel	0	1	0
J. Bruchert	0	2	0
J. Poohl	0	1	0
Friend	0	0	5
Per. O. Jorgensen (Book 36)—H.M., 2s; H.D., 1s; S., 2s	0	4	0
	£44	13	5
Advanced as Loans.			
Already acknowledged	6	0	0
Total	50	13	5

All communications to be addressed to O. W. Jorgensen, secretary, Press Fund Committee, 274 Pitt-street, Sydney.

Propaganda Fixtures.

DOMAIN—Feldhusen (chair), Riley, Walsh, Mrs. Harris, Holland.

MARTIN PLACE—Harris (chair), Riley, Feldhusen, Hocking.

GOULBURN-STREET—Mrs. Dunne (chair), Wilson, Slade, Hirst.

The Evening Meetings will commence at 7.

At the last minute we are compelled to hold over an Open Column article by A. H. Berry on "The Vista of Ages." It will appear next week.

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A Slaughterhouse Sweatshop.

BY H. L. DENFORD.

THE average trades unionist, in the various craft unions, is crying "Peace, Peace"—at any price. He imagines that so long as he can fix an agreement with his master for allegedly better conditions, it is alright with the rest of the world. Once having fixed this agreement, he does not care a brimstone spark how his fellow-unionists in other occupations fare. Through this failure to recognise that the interests of all workers in all industries are identical, sweating in its worst form thrives and flourishes in every calling.

This sweating prevails in industries whether an organisation of workmen exists or not, thereby proving the impotence of trades unionism.

In the meat industry one section of the Slaughtermen's Union recently struck work on account of the masters trying to force worse conditions on them than previously existed. This section took the only action that was possible to defeat the masters; yet another section of the Slaughtermen's Union continued working, apparently quite unconcerned as to how their fellow unionists would fare. They were satisfied so long as they were themselves out of the trouble; that is, so long as the masters altered *their* conditions for the better. They did not recognise that an injury to one section in an industry would be sure to reflect on the conditions of the whole industry. They fail to understand working-class solidarity of interests.

Now, whilst these unionists are scabbing on their fellow-slaughtermen, the laborers working by their side are being sweated in the most outrageous manner.

In the Riverstone Meat Works the laborers approached the Slaughtermen's Union, asking to be admitted as members of that organisation, seeing that they were both dependent on each other. They were told that the Slaughtermen's Union was only for "skilled" workers who were receiving a certain pay. The laborers on getting this answer pointed out that if all the workers in the industry were in one union they would be better able to improve the conditions of all wage-workers; they also pointed out the wretched conditions that they (the laborers) were working under on account of not being organised. But this did not alter the decision of the Slaughtermen's Union, which was immovable.

The attitude adopted by the Slaughtermen meant that they did not care what conditions the laborers were working under. They adopted the very foolish tone of a superior class of men who should have superior conditions. This is typical of our present-day craft unions of alleged skilled workers.

The conditions that these laborers are working under at the Riverstone works are as follows: In the beef-house the laborers have to do grounding, sawing, and wiping-down work that should be done by the Slaughtermen who receive £4 per week of 48 hours. The laborers have to do it for 42s per week of 54 hours. They also have to load the train, carrying quarters of beef weighing from 2cwt. to 2½cwt.

The slaughtermen have never protested against the firm employing laborers for this work, because if they did so they would have to do it themselves.

In the mutton-house, a large number of youths ranging in age from 15 to 20 years, are employed. They receive the magnificent remuneration of 15s to 20s per week of 54 hours. Their work is of a most laborious nature.

The carriers-off—that is, the men who take the sheep from the butchers—receive 41s per week of 54 hours. They have to load the train when the butcher has finished his work. They carry on an average 500 sheep each per shift.

Cutters-out and classers receive 26s per week. The cutters-out use a knife for their work; the classers do the grading of sheep.

All of these men are employed at night work. The men employed at day work have no better conditions.

The yardsmen's wages are 39s per week of 54 hours. These men have to do very laborious work, such as loading bone-dust, blood, and tallow, and unloading coal, etc. After doing their days's work they are often called up at all hours of the night to unload stock. For this they receive 1s per hour. Very often they only do a half-hour's work, and for this they receive the stupendous sum of sixpence. Just fancy, Mr. Editor, getting up in a frosty night to earn sixpence! I wonder how the boss, or even the slaughtermen, would like to do it?

Tallow men receive from 35s to 36s per week. These men have very hot work to perform, and the disagreeble nature of it can easily be imagined.

These are the conditions that the laborers have asked the slaughtermen to help them to get altered.

This sweating is going on in spite of our boasted "labor" legislation, and the fact hurls the lie back in the teeth of our politicians who are prating of the prosperity of this country with its boasted eight-hours per day.

Some short time back the laborers employed at Riverstone sent a deputation to the firm asking for an all-round increase in wages and all-round reduction of hours of labor. The firm told them that they could not accede to their request, but as a sop gave a few men a miserable increase amounting in all to about 30s per week. If the Slaughtermen's Union had taken these laborers in, and demanded improved conditions, backed up by working-class action, this firm woutd never have offered such an insult. The firm would have been only too willing to come to terms, especially as they have secured an increased trade and raked in heavy profits through the present strike at Glebe Island.

As it now stands, the Laborers have joined the United Laborers, a union which is not closely connected with the meat industry. This union is taking the case up, and if it adopts working class action—that is, sends forth the call for a cessation of work at Riverstone—it can force the firm to come to terms. The United Laborers will also show that "superior" organisation, the Slaughtermen, that they are as much dependent on the laborers as the laborers are on them.

As I have said before, trades unionism can never settle this sweating question completely: it requires a different form of organisation, such as Industrial Unionism. As soon as the workers of Riverstone and elsewhere recognise this, the hour of the abolition of all sweating will have come.

An Open Letter.

To the Workers of Every Country, irrespective of Sex or Age.

BY V. E. PISARENKO.

WORKER! Who art thou? What art thou? human being, animal, bird, reptile, insect, or some other creature?

Already I have lived many years. Every day I see thee; but know not who or what thou art—a living being, a machine, or what not.

I see houses, palaces, theatres, coaches, trains, motor-cars, productions of wealth. I see people enjoying these good things. The are bright, and happy, and truly live.

Amongst them I cannot find thee. Where art thou? Answer me when I call. Tell me who and where thou art.

I have had a dream, a dreadful dream, of miserable huts, hunger, distress, faces thin and white through lack of food, cripples, children and grandparents dying of starvation, youths and maidens, in the absence of employment, selling their bodies for bread, fathers wandering in search of work, and even begging, for the support of sick wife or family.

In my dream I asked: "Who are these who suffer so much, and why? They even seem to approve their present conditions, and be happy in them."

"They are," said someone in reply—"the workers, the creators of capital, the builders of palaces, the strong, brave, capable men, who in a moment, could subdue the world, but in silence remain the slaves of the rich and classes."

"Awake and rise!" suddenly called the voice.

I have awaked, and now in my ears resound the words, "Awake and rise!"

Perhaps to thee, O worker, in the present conditions these words should not be spoken. Why?

Ask what really is life. Ask whether it be true that thou art the creator of Capital, the builder of palaces, and art able quickly to subdue the world, if thou wilt cease to be the calm slave of royalty and wealth.

Do'st thou disbelieve?

Organised Scabbery.

BY H.E.H.

WHILE the Glebe Island slaughtermen are out on strike and the employers are endeavoring to force them into submission by starving their wives and children, members of the Railway Union (Labor-member Hollis, secretary) are bringing live stock on the railways to be slaughtered by scabs; members of the Trolly and Draymen's Union (Labor-member Hughes, president) are carting the scab-handled carcases to the retail shops; members of the Butchers' Union (Labor-candidate Lloyd, secretary) are selling the scab-slaughtered meat over the counters in the retail shops; members of the Cold Storage Union are getting the scab-slaughtered carcases ready for export; members of the Wharf Laborers Union (Labor-member Hughes, secretary) are placing the scab-slaughtered carcases on the boats; members of the Federated Seamen's Union (Labor-Senator Guthrie, secretary) are sailing the boats away with the scab cargo; and the members of the Basil Workers' Union at Botany are taking the wool off the scab pelts. This is what the Labor Party calls Unionism. We call it organised scabbery, and we declare that the facts herein presented furnish the soundest of all sound arguments for Industrial Unionism.

Does your friend believe in kings and princes, landlords and capitalists, leg-ironers and strikebreakers, and such like parasitical persons? Get him to read THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST. He can do with it.

S.F.A. News & Notes.

South Australia.

BY H.S.C.

THE Railway Laborers' strike is settled, and the men have won right out. They knocked all the fight out of Honest John Verran, and won without the assistance of that fountain-head of the absolute sectional unions, the Trades and Labor Council. The final settlement was arranged between the delegates from the U.L.U. and the Ministry. The Trades and Labor Council was entitely ignored in the matter.

The fight has done grand educational work in the ranks of the workers, and they are now fast learning that it is useless for them to take the advice of political opportunists and their papers about voting at the ballot box until they are first organised on the industrial field on a class-conscious basis.

The ranks of the Labor Party have been so shaken that various individuals are now throwing the blame upon poor old honest John, and saying that it was his stupidness that caused all the trouble; but they overlook the fact that John is only one of a party of six that compose the cabinet. The peace-at-any-price attitude of the Trades and Labor Council has given the impression to the workers that the council is acting as a species foster mother to the middle-class political labor movement. (In my opinion this is correct.) The curious part of it is that some of the delegates to the Council, including one of the past presidents, have only been supporters of the Labor Party since the Government took office.

The members of the Government General Workers' Association (which is run on a subscription of one and half penny per week, and has a Labor M.P. as president) passed a resolution to the effect that whilst they believed that they U.L.U.'s grievances were genuine they could not endorse their action as they believed that had the U.L.U. allowed the Council to deal with the matter it would have been unnecessray for the men to strike. Quite likely, too, as the Council would probably have found a way to compromise with Honest John Verran and his colleagues. This is only a logical attitude for the Government General Workers to take up, as one of their rules provide that their members must exhaust all departmental means before they bring a dispute before their association.

The Party's propaganda work is being vigorously carried on. The classes and outdoor meetings are still largely attended. Every Sunday evening a lecture is given in the Socialist Hall in Wakefield-street.

Comrade Montagu Miller passed through last week en route to W.A. On Friday a number of Socialists met the grand old fighter on the arrival of the boat, and in the evening he was tendered a welcome in the hall, where he gave an extremely interesting address to a large audience. On Saturday another big crowd listened to the veteran Socialist at Port Adelaide evening meeting, and at midnight he sailed for the West.—14.9.10.

Sydney Jottings.

BY F.J.R.

The Club social on Friday was the usual success.

Riley took the chair at Domain meeting on Sunday. He dwelt on the fact that the Fair to be held on Friday, 23rd, was in aid of the Press Fund. Wilson followed with a discourse on the difference between Reform and Revolution. Mrs. Harris spoke on the Class War. Holland followed on the Post Office sweating and speeding-up in Minahan's factory. There was a splendid crowd, and the demand for Socialist literature was great.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST increases 100 this week.

Goulburn-street meeting was attended by a large crowd. One friend took half-a-dozen papers for distribution among his workmates. Denford opened, and drew a large crowd. Riley, Hirst, and Hocking were the speakers.

At Martin Place Mrs. Dunne presided, and spoke splendidly. Slade and Wilson were the speakers here.

The Fair! This Friday.

Comrade Cox, from England, with fraternal messages from Tom Mann, Will Thorne, Jones, and others, was a welcome visitor this week.

W. Rosser, again the victim of an industrial rebellion, visited Sydney on Tuesday.

Members are reminded that the general meeting will be held NEXT TUESDAY. Business important—don't miss it.

Broken Hill.

The De Bavay works is becoming a slaughter-house for wage-slaves. A young man named Wells met with a serious accident there last week, and at the time of writing is in the hospital in an unconscious condition.

A debate took place on Friday night under the auspices of the Burke Ward P.L.L. Subject: No License. A parson (Rev. Harris) upheld the dignity of the temperance reformers, and Noonan (local publican) the brewery interest. Statistics and authorities in galore were quoted by both sides, but the trail of Plunder was over it all. Gray criticised both sides severely, and told them that the real cause of the misery and drunkenness of to-day was the private ownership of the means of wealth production. He declared that if they destroyed the octopus that forces men to toil under intolerable conditions in order to gain bread to live, the evil of drink would pass away. The parson, in replying, was very wroth—and very unfair. He became excited and waved his arms in a furious manner, viciously attacking the Socialists, and quoting John Burns against the drink traffic. The debate will be continued next Friday, and the Reds will be there.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST contents sheets are well posted about Broken Hill.

Some one with a proclivity for practical joking made a flutter here by telling *Barrier Truth* that the local Socialists were going to oppose the two sitting Labor members, and that Harry Gray would be nominated against Cann and Harry Holland against Griffith. *Truth* printed the announcement with black headlines and starred it on the posters. Local laborites almost ran amok, and those who had nothing else to do wasted a lot of good breath calling the Socialists the most sulphuric names. How we did laugh! Next day the rival paper, the *Miner*, interviewed Tom Hogan, who gave the joke away, at the same time carefully announcing that HE wasn't a member of the Revolutionary Socialist Party.—14.9.1910.

Mental Dynamite.

Or Little Lessons to Learn.

BY GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK.

Lesson Ten: What the Socialists Want.

Before stating what the Socialists want, let me remind you:

1. That despotism is wrong, and that, logically; any politically despotic society should be RECONSTRUCTED with the political despotism left out.

2. That despotism is wrong, and that, therefore, any industrially despotic society also should be RECONSTRUCTED, with the industrial despotism left out.

3. Capitalism (the present CLASS-labor system) is an industrial despotism—the despotism OF AND BY A CLASS.

4. THEREFORE, the Socialists seek the RECONSTRUCTION of society with the industrial despotism left out; and, hence,

The Socialists Propose:

To reconstruct society industrially on the plan of mutualism, as follows:

1. The social ownership of the means of production.

2. The social control of the means of production.

3. The production of goods primarily for social service of all, instead of primarily for profits for part of society.

4. The self-employment of all who are willing to do useful work by means of the joint ownership of the things the workers must collectively use in production, each to receive the full value of his "labor," undiminished by rent, interest or profits.

5. The possession and control of the powers of government by and in behalf of those who seek the freedom of the working class—by those who seek the destruction of the wage-system.

This mutualism in industry will not interfere with private affairs, such as religion and family life, any more than the mutual ownership of the public library now interferes with such private affairs.

The system proposed in this reconstruction is so vitally different from and opposed to the present capitalist system, that to inaugurate, operate and defend the new system requires that a political party be placed in power completely committed to this COMPLETE INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION.

The Sydney Fair. This Friday.

THIS Friday, Sep. 23, at the Manchester Unity Hall, our Fair, Concert, and Dance will take place. See that YOU be there.

Stall attendants and those assisting at the doors are requested to be at the hall not later than 7.30. Comrades who can spare the time will help the committee by coming to the hall in the morning and assisting to arrange stalls, decorations, etc.

The following additional presents have been received: Miss Nelly Lee, dressing table tidies; H. L. Denford, 2s 6d; H. Liversedge, 5s; F. Hoff, 3s; C. Liversedge, 5s; Mr. Hugo, 2s 6d; Mr. Summers, 2s 6d; Miss Annie Wenzel, 3s; Mrs. Johns, 3 chair ornaments; Mr. Rappiport, Dutch pipe; Mrs. Wagner, collection of paper flowers; Mrs. Ostergren, box of paper flowers; Mrs. G. Wenzel, 5 ornaments; F. Liversidge, 2 glass walking sticks, 2 glass St. Jacob's ladders; K. Druhmel, ascetylene bicycle lamp; J. Blumenthal, microscope; Miss Annie Voss, paper chain decorations.

Watch for that Red Mark on your paper, and send your renewal sub along.

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CHANT OF LABOR.

O, HEAVY is the burden your shoulders long have borne;
Oh, weary are the ways you tread, and sharp your crown of thorn;
You march along, forlorn of song, with sob of stifled weeping,
And happier seem the quiet dead, who, after work, are sleeping.
But still, for you the future waits; for you the sunrise glows;
For you, at last, the wilderness shall blossom as the rose.
In days to be you shall be free, and neighbor with his neighbor,
And friend with friend, shall celebrate emancipated labor!
Oh, wake, wake, wake,
The future beckons bright!
The long dark night is sweeping past,
And the morning will be light.

—AARON WATSON.

International Notes.

Japan.

L'Humanite publishes a letter received by Jean Longuet from our comrade Katayama, in which he relates the series of terrible persecutions and oppressions to which the Japanese Socialists are being subjected.

During the war with Russia, he says, the Socialists made great efforts against the war, but unhappily they emerged from the struggle almost completely crushed; all their organisations were dissolved and their papers suppressed.

But the Minister who had desired the war had a bad time after the peace of Portsmouth; his unpopularity was such that he had to retire from power.

Mr. Saionji's new Ministry were Liberals, and they allowed the re-organisation of the Socialist Party and the publication of several newspapers. The Socialists set to work again with ardour, and in January, 1907, succeeded in starting a daily Socialist paper at Tokio. But just then the great strike broke out in the two largest copper mines—Assia and Bessi. Many militant Socialists were condemned to prison, and at the same time the persecution was again resumed in full force against our party, which, after seven months of legal existence, was again dissolved.

Unhappily the movement was at that time split into two fractions, the partisans of "direct action," and the Marxists, who adopted the tactics of modern Socialism. This weakened the movement.

They had still the right of convening public meetings and publishing papers. But the next change of the Cabinet brought increased persecution—the Conservative and militarist Minister Katsoura suppressed all the Socialist journals. A fraction of the former members of the party belonging to the direct action group became complete Anarchists, which gave the Government a pretext for saying that all Socialists were Anarchists, and treating them accordingly. Not only were the papers and the right of public meeting put an end to, but even the sale of books; and many of our comrades lost their situations through the action of the police in warning their employers of their subversive opinions. Every militant is closely followed by a policeman—sometimes two!

The result of these methods has been to drive people to extreme measures, and that is how the recent plot arose to blow up the Mikado with dynamite.

In consequence of this deplorable affair about forty Socialists and Anarchists were thrown into prison. The persecution was redoubled, and now the letters of our comrades are opened, and every Socialist is treated like a criminal, while the capitalist press denounces them as such.

In conclusion, Katayama begs Longuet to lift up his voice against the brutal treatment of the Japanese Socialists, and to assist them in their terrible struggle. He begs him to give it the utmost publicity, both at Copenhagen and all over the world.

Finland.

The Socialist Party school, decided upon at the Congress of 1909, for the education of propagandists, will be opened in October.

France.

The full results of the elections (including second ballots) for the Departmental Councils are now to hand. The Unified Socialists have now 56 seats (hitherto 35, an increase of 21), the Reactionaries and Nationalists have 210 (hitherto 259, a loss of 49), the Progressists have 139 (hitherto 163, a loss of 24), the Republicans of the Left have 351 (hitherto 332, a gain of 19), the Radicals and Radical-Socialists have 658 (hitherto 635, a gain of 23, the Republican-Socialists have 28 (hitherto 17, a gain of 11), the Revolutionaries have 1 (as before).

United States.

The Delaware and Hudson Railroad Co. ordered a dozen Marlin riot guns and other implements of war to be used against the workers who went on strike on July 2.

The Italian laborers of Milwaukee who dig in the streets have been organised and will receive recognition from the present government.

The newest Socialist paper in the field is the *Socialist Democrat*, published at Rochester, Pa.

The Comrade, the Socialist paper of Erie, Pa., has now become a regular weekly.

Karl M. Liebknecht and Karl Legien, two prominent Socialist members of the German Reichstag, will make a speaking tour of the United States for from six to eight weeks, beginning in October. Legien is one of the best equipped men in Germany dealing with matters pertaining to organised labor, while Liebknecht, the son of a still more famous Socialist, has given special attention to the political side of Socialism and the special question of militarism.

New York *Call* is printing Marcus Clark's Australian novel, "For the Term of His Natural Life," as a serial.

A new weekly Socialist paper is assured from Michigan.

Iowa Socialists have nominated John M. Work for governor. Three women are on the state ticket.

The police of Brooklyn, N.Y., are employing drastic measures to put a stop to Socialist propaganda in that city, having arrested no less than three speakers within a week recently, for speaking on the street.

J. Stitt Wilson has been nominated as Socialist candidate for governor of California.

Socialist activity has redoubled in New Castle, Pa., since the trial of the editors of the *Free Press*, charged with "seditious libel."

T. E. Latimer, an organiser working in North Dakota, was arrested at Devils Lake, recently on a charge of "disturbing the peace." In commenting on the case, the Towner County *Democrat* says: "There was great indignation expressed here among the Socialists, as well as all fair minded people, over the action of the authorities, presumably backed by cheap politicians who deemed it too near the primary election to allow any one not of their political faith to be granted the right of free speech."

Denmark.

Comrade Hansen, the President of the People's House at Copenhagen, and one of the oldest militant Socialists of Denmark, has given *l'Humanite* some interesting information concerning the movement in his native land. The People's House is an immense building, where as many as forty meetings can be held simultaneously, and cost the trade unionists 300,000 crowns. The International Congress was held in a still larger hall, the Concert Palace, which is the largest in Copenhagen.

The Socialist Party has twenty-four members in the Volketing, out of a total of 114, and four in the Senate (66). Two of our deputies are University men and three are former schoolmasters. All the rest are militant trade unionists, mostly from the great Metal-Workers' and Wood-Workers' unions. On the Municipal Council we have twenty members out of forty-two, and four or five advanced Radicals generally vote with them.

The trade union movement continues to develop with increasing energy, and the workers organised in these unions are relatively more numerous than in any other country—90 per cent. In certain trades, as the printing trade, there is now no longer *one* man in the whole of Denmark outside the union. At Copenhagen alone there are nearly 100,000 trade unionists.

Russia.

The review *Pravo* publishes a report on the executions in Russia. It only comprises those condemnations pronounced by the district tribunals, and not those of the military tribunals of the expeditions of repression. From 1875 to 1908 the number of persons executed was 2,678, of which 268 were military and 2,410 were civil. But in the year 1908 alone the number of death-sentences under the exceptional regime was 7,017 and the number of executions carried out was 1,340. In 1909 the number of executions still amounted to 630.

The Ministry of the Interior is preparing a Bill to abolish freedom of speech in the Duma. Up till now deputies could not be proceeded against for any expressions used by them in the Duma. The new Bill is to be called the Bill for the "Responsibility of Deputies in slandering Imperial Officers."

Tunis.

The Tunis Government has the intention of abolishing the liberty of the press by re-establishing the system of demanding bail for its good behaviour. The new regulation is principally directed against the Socialists. They wish to prevent Silva, secretary of the Railway Trade Union at Bone-Guelma, from continuing the publication of the syndicalist journal *Las Voix des Cheminots*. The Government also wish to prevent the publication of the Socialist paper *La Semaine*, and to stop Rouest, its chief editor, publishing his pamphlets in defence of the natives, which have been translated into Arabic.

Germany.

The Pforzheim branch of the Baden Social-Democratic Party held a meeting to discuss the action of the Parliamentary group in voting for the Budget. Kolb and Geck spoke. A vote of confidence in the deputies was negatived by 99 votes to 98.

A Column of Clippings.

THAT is the gravamen of the charge which can be justly brought against Spain—that the trial of Ferrer was no trial; that he may have been guilty or may have been innocent, but that nothing was proved.—*Spectator.*

The execution of Senor Ferror is a crime, and a stupid crime. It bears an ominously close resemblane to those deeds of blind and unscrupulous panic that history has marked as the forerunners of revolution.—*The Nation.*

"Pluck," said the financier, "is the secret of success." "Well," interrupted the shabby man, "I'll give you 100d. if you'll teach me your method of plucking."

Government by injunction is strictly in line with the capitalists' conception of liberty—which, of course, means liberty for the capitalist, and slavery for the worker.

Socialism is the conservator of justice, the promoter of human destiny, and the safeguard of human rights.

England is agog because a relative of the king has printed a book in which he sees Socialism in operation. He shows, however, that he is cross-eyed when he views the kings and nobles as pensioned. They are not able to do many useful things, but they may come in handy in solving the vexed problem of "who will do the dirty work under Socialism?"—*Appeal to Reason.*

Poverty is the child of exploitation.

An evil reformed is an evil strengthened.

Discontent is the mother of faith and hope.

It is organised greed against unorganised need.

The paying of rent leads to clothes that are rent.

Mastery means initiative for the few; Socialism initiative for all.

The capitalist is a master. The man who is bossed is a slave.

Socialism can live and do its work only as it thinks beyond itself.

Efforts at freedom in the past have ended in some form of slavery.

Socialism never flies the white flag.

Labor is a Hercules who does wonderful things—for others.

Labor, like a blind Sampson, grinds in the mills and is made sport of by the idlers.

There is only one thing of which labor has too much. That is patience.

You imagine that Socialists are going to take all you have and divide it among the tramps. We don't want your paltry little capital. It would do us no good. We want the earth.

Why this depression? It is because the workingman receives less than one-third of the wealth he produces.

There is not a single right accorded man that should not be accorded woman.

Socialism is not a finality. It is but the next step in human development, the next stage in our evolution. You can hasten or retard it, but you can no more prevent it than you can prevent the rivers from finding their ways to the seas.

The savage works but little and has plenty. Civilised man works all the time and is always in danger of want.

Socialism is not a straddle. It stands squarely for the workers of the world and against the shirkers of the world.

So long as the old parties do not give you what you want, you throw your vote away when you vote with them.

"Man wants but little here below," applies chiefly to the exploiters. The producers are continually in want.

Civilisation, judged by the armies and navies it maintains, is the most uncivil thing that ever existed.

Don't theorise on whether you can win such and such people to Socialism, but go out and win them.

While the idle rich want you to do their work, they are perfectly willing to do the thinking for you.

Under capitalism, man is not a human being, but only a machine to do work and grinds out the profits.

What you own belongs to your owners, the men on whom you are depending for a job.

If you are satisfied with present conditions, you would be uproariously happy in hell.

It takes study to make a Socialist. In the old parties votes are made by a glass beer and a cigar.

If the logic of Socialism fails to penetrate your mind, the logic of capitalism will not fail to pentrate your pocketbook.

In two hours a man can earn his day's wage. All the time he works after that is surplus.

How can Socialism take anything from you when Capitalism has left nothing to be taken?

At the second ballot of the bye-election in Rome our comrade Camparozzi was elected by 1,475 votes, as against 1,250 polled by his opponent.

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THE POINT OF VIEW.

I stroll on a plain serenely fair,
Where the bright sun shone, and grass grew green,
And little children played all around,
While happy mothers watched the scene,
And I said this is a joyous world,
And things are all as they ought to be,
These Agitators love muck and dirt,
For things are as fair as fair can be,
So we'll stand pat,
And let well enough alone.

But one had climbed an adjacent hill,
And his vision reached beyond my ken.
He told of suffering want and woe,
And fierce wild struggles 'twixt men and men.
He called "come up," but I shook my head,
I can see all things from here as well,
So I still sang on of love and hope,
And closed my ears to his talk of hell.
So we'll all stand pat,
And let well enough alone.

He called again, and with weary feet,
I struggled till I reached his side,
And *then* I saw—but my tongue would fail,
To tell of the scene spread far and wide.
Where women fainted and children starved
Mid the flames and carnage riot there,
Where gaunt-faced men were like beasts of prey.
A little way from my plain so fair,
Where all stood pat
And left well enough alone.

I climbed again, and I saw a stream
With an angry rush and maddening roar,
Come sweeping on with relentless force,
Its waves piled high upon shore to shore.
And with vision cleared I saw the end.
And my soul grew sick with fear and dread.
The plain must vanish and naught remain,
But upturned faces of maimed and dead,
If we all stand pat
And let bad enough alone.

—VICTOR GAGE KIMBERT.

Patriotism and Militarism.

A Menace to Liberty.

BY EMMA GOLDMAN.

(Continued.)

THE rising cost of militarism may be still further illustrated by computing it as a per capita tax on population. From the first to the last of the five-year periods taken as the basis for the comparisons here given it has risen as follows: In Great Britain, from £3 14s to £10 10s; in France, from £3 15s 6d to £4 15s; in Germany, from £2 8s 9d to £3 2s; in the United States, from £1 2s 6d to £2 15s; in Russia, from £1 2s 6d to £2 1s 6d; in Italy, from £3 2s 3d to £3 9s; and in Japan from 3s 9d to 12s 6d.

It is in connection with this rough estimate of cost per capita that the economic burden of militarism is most appreciable. The irresistible conclusion from available data is that the increase of expenditure for army and navy purposes is rapidly surpassing the growth of population in each of the countries considered in the present calculation. In other words, a continuation of the increased demands of militarism threatens each of those nations with a progressive exhaustion of both men and resources.

The awful waste that Patriotism necessitates ought to be sufficient to cure the man of even average intelligence from this disease. Yet Patriotism demands still more. The people are urged to be patriotic, and for that luxury they pay, not only by supporting their "defenders," but even by sacrificing their own children. Patriotism requires allegiance to the flag, which means obedience and readiness to kill father, mother, brother, sister.

Carlyle said, "War is a quarrel between two thieves, too cowardly to fight their own battle; therefore they take boys from one village and another village, stick them into uniforms, equip them with guns, and let them loose like wild beasts against each other."

It does not require much wisdom to trace every war back to a similar cause. Let us take the Spanish-American war, supposedly a great and patriotic event in the history of the United States. How our hearts burned with indignation against the atrocious spaniards! True, our indignation did not flare up spontaneously. It was nurtured by months of newspaper agitation, and long after Butcher Weyler had killed off many noble Cubans and outraged many Cuban women. The American nation grew indignant, and in justice be it said, it fought bravely. But when the smoke was over, the wounded buried, and the cost of war came back to the people in an increase of the price of commodities and rent—that is, when we sobered up from our patriotic spree, it suddenly dawned on us that the cause of the Spanish-American war was the consideration of the price of sugar; or, to be more explicit, that the lives, blood, and money of the American people were used to protect the interests of American capitalists, which were threatened by the Spanish government. That this is not an exaggeration, but is based on absolute facts and figures, is best proved by the attitude of the American government to Cuban labor. When Cuba was firmly in the clutches of the United States, the very soldiers sent to liberate Cuba were ordered to shoot Cuban workingmen during the great cigarmakers' strike, which took place shortly after the war.

Nor do we stand alone in waging war for such causes. The curtain is beginning to be lifted on the motives of the terrible Russo-Japanese war, which cost so much blood and tears. And we see again that back of the fierce Moloch of war stands the still fiercer god of Commercialism. Kuropatkin, the Russian Minister of War during the Russo-Japanese struggle, has revealed the true secret behind the latter. The Tsar and his Grand Dukes, having invested money in Corean concessions, the war was forced for the sole reason of speedily accumulating large fortunes.

The contention that a standing army and navy are the best security of peace is about as logical as the claim that the most peaceful citizen is he who goes about most heavily armed. The experience of every-day life fully proves that the armed individual is invariably anxious to try his strength. The same is historically true of governments. Really peaceful countries do not waste life and energy in war preparations, with the result that peace is maintained.

However, the clamor for an increased army and navy is not due to any foreign danger. It is owing to the dread of the growing discontent of the masses and of the international spirit among the workers. It is to meet the internal enemy that the Powers of various countries are preparing themselves; an enemy who, once awakened to consciousness, will prove more dangerous than any foreign invader.

The Powers that have for centuries been engaged in enslaving the masses have made a thorough study of their psychology. They know that the people at large are like children whose despair, sorrow, and tears can be turned into joy with a little toy. And the more gorgeously the toy is dressed, the louder the colors, the more it will appeal to the million-headed child.

An army and navy represent the people's toys. To make them more attractive and acceptable, hundreds of thousands of pounds are being spent for the display of these toys.

With all the evil results that Patriotism is fraught with for the average man, it is as nothing compared with the insult and injury that Patriotism heaps upon the soldier himself—that poor, deluded victim of superstition and ignorance. He, the saviour of his country, the protector of his nation—what has Patriotism in store for him? A life of slavish submission, vice, and perversion during peace; a life of danger, exposure, and death during war.

In San Francisco, I visited the Presidio, the most beautiful spot overlooking the Bay and Golden Gate Park. Its purpose should have been playgrounds for children, gardens and music for the recreation of the weary. Instead, it is made ugly, dull, and gray by barracks—barracks wherein the rich would not allow their dogs to dwell. In these miserable shanties soldiers are herded like cattle; here they waste their young days, polishing the boots and brass buttons of their superior officers. Here, too, I saw the distinction of classes: sturdy sons of a free republic, drawn up in line like convicts, saluting every passing shrimp of a lieutenant.

Barrack life further tends to develop tendencies of sexual perversion. It is gradually producing along this line results similar to European military conditions. Havelock Ellis, the noted writer on sex physychology, has made a thorough study of the subject. I quote: "Some of the barracks are great centers of male prostitution. . . . The number of soldiers who prostitute themselves is greater than we are willing to believe. It is no exaggeration to say that in certain regiments the presumption is in favor of the venality of the majority of men. . . . On summer evenings, Hyde Park and the neighborhood of Albert Gate, are full of guardsmen and others plying a lively trade and with little disguise, in uniform or out. . . . In most cases the proceeds form a comfortable addition to Tommy Atkins' pocket money."

To what extent this perversion has eaten its way into the army and navy can best be judged from the fact that special houses exist for this form of prostitution. The practice is not limited to England; it is universal. "Soldiers are no less sought after in France than in England or in Germany, and special houses for military prostitution exist both in Paris and the garrison towns."

Had Mr. Havelock Ellis included America in his investigations of sex perversion, he would have found that the same conditions prevail in our army and navy as in those of other countries. The growth of the standing army inevitably adds to the spread of sex perversion; the barracks are the incubators.

Aside from the sexual effects of barrack life, it also tends to unfit the soldier for useful labor after leaving the army. Men skilled in a trade seldom enter the army or navy, but even they, after a military experience, find themselves totally unfitted for their former occupations. Having acquired habits of idleness and a taste for excitement and adventure, no peaceful pursuit can content them. Released from the army, they can turn to no useful work. But it is usually the social riff-raff, discharged prisoners and the like, whom either the struggle for existence or their own inclination drives into the ranks. These, their military term over, again turn to their former life of crime, more brutalized and degraded than before.

It is a well-known fact that in our prisons there is a goodly number of ex-soldiers; while on the other hand, the army and navy are to a great extent supplied with ex-convicts.

To be continued.

Bernard Shawisms.

THE true diagnostic of modern gentility is parasitism.

A gentleman of our days is one who has money enough to do what every fool would do if he could afford it: that is, consume without producing.

No elaboration of physical or moral accomplishment can atone for the sin of parasitism.

The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man.

Charity is the most mischievous sort of prurience.

All men mean well.

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